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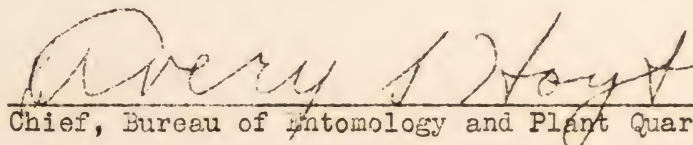
B.E.P.Q.-403, Third Revision

PLANT QUARANTINE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS  
OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF FRANCE

This revision of the plant quarantine import restrictions of France, made necessary by revocation of the principal orders formerly enforced in France, has been prepared for the information of nurserymen, plant quarantine officials, and others interested in the exportation of plants and plant products to France.

It was prepared by R. G. Oakley, Division of Plant Quarantines, from translations of French Ministry of Agriculture Orders of March 5, 1952 and October 2, 1952, and other applicable legislation, and was reviewed by a representative of that Ministry.

Information contained in this circular is believed to be correct and complete up to the time of preparation, but it is not intended to be used independently of, nor as a substitute for, the original texts, and it is not to be interpreted as legally authoritative.

  
Chief, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine



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# PLANT QUARANTINE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

OF THE

REPUBLIC OF FRANCE

## BASIC LEGISLATION

Ordinance No. 45-2627 of November 2, 1945, as amended by Article 65 of Law No. 47-520 of March 21, 1947, organizing the protection of plants. The Ordinance authorizes the Minister of Agriculture to designate agricultural pests against which defense measures are to be taken and to issue orders defining conditions of importation into France of plants or parts of plants, soils, manures, composts, containers, bags, and other wrappings that might harbor parasites classed as dangerous; prohibits the importation of any parasite considered dangerous by the Minister of Agriculture, except as authorized by him for experimental purposes; and provides that expenses of all types relative to sanitary measures applicable to imports of plants, plant products, and other material which may introduce injurious animal or plant organisms into France, must be borne by the importers, even when infested products are refused entry or destroyed.

Order of March 5, 1952, providing for inspection, fees, etc., associated with importations of plant products.

Orders of October 2, 1952, promulgating San Jose scale regulations for importation of woody plants and parts thereof and their fruits, and designating ports of entry.

The above orders, together with other effective orders, are summarized in the following paragraphs as they apply to importations from the United States.

## SUMMARY

The regulations of the French Plant Protection Service govern the entry of plants and plant products (except dried or preserved kinds) containers, soil, etc., and require, generally, the sanitary certification of importations of fresh fruits and plants and parts of living woody plants. Import permits are not required.



### Importation Prohibited

- Chestnut (Castanea spp.) trees and wood. (See par. 5, p. 4.)
- Dodder and forage-crop seeds containing dodder. (See par. 13, p. 7.)
- Grapevine (Vitis spp.) stocks and cuttings. (See par. 8, p. 5.)
- Poplar plants and unrooted cuttings, except for research purposes.  
(See par. 9, p. 5.)
- Potatoes infected with potato wart (Synchytrium endobioticum).  
(See par. 10, p. 5.)
- Resinous timber or lumber with bark; also bark debris. (See par. 11,  
p. 5.)

### Importation Restricted

- Bulbs, corms, tubers, rhizomes, etc., (except Dahlias), require no certification but are subject to results of inspection on arrival. (See par. 1, p. 3.)
- Chestnuts require sanitary certification specifying a shipment has been disinfected by a process acceptable to the French Plant Protection Service. (See par. 5, p. 4.)
- Coniferous plants and plant parts (except seeds), require certification attesting that the products and those grown in the locality of origin were inspected and found free from needle-cast (Rhabdocline pseudotsugae). (See par. 6, pp. 4-5.)
- Dahlia tubers require certification that the tubers originated exclusively from selected stock and that they are free from virus diseases. (See par. 7, p. 5.)
- Fresh fruits require certification for freedom from San Jose scale.  
(See par. 12, pp. 6-7.)
- Plants (woody) and woody plant parts (except Conifers (see above) and Aurantiaceae) require certification for freedom from San Jose scale and disinsectization on arrival. (See par. 12, pp. 6-7.)
- Seedcorn of hybrid strains will not be admitted in quantity if the strains have not been tested in advance in France. (See par. 15, p. 8.)
- Seeds of forage crops must comply with purity and germination requirements. (See par. 14, pp. 7-8.)
- Seeds of flowers, vegetables, etc., require no certification but are subject to results of inspection on arrival. (See pars. 1 to 4, pp. 3-4.)

GENERAL REGULATIONS  
(Ministerial Order of March 5, 1952)

Inspection on Arrival Required

1. The importation into all territory subject to customs, with the exception of Algeria, of the products listed below, coming from a foreign country or from any territory of the French Union, is subject, at the Customs offices designated for that purpose, to inspection by the Plant Protection Service, even when such shipments are accompanied, whichever the case, by phytopathological certificates or certificates of health issued by the competent authorities of the country of origin, or by certificates of origin.

Products Requiring Inspection

2. (a) Living plants and floricultural products, except flowers and foliage that are dried, dyed, etc.
- (b) Vegetables, plants, roots, and edible tubers, except dried, dehydrated, or evaporated vegetables and plants for cooking, and roots and tubers of high starch content.
- (c) Edible fruits.
- (d) Green coffee in berries, in parchment, as beans, and in pellicles; and peppers (of genus Capsicum, except C. grossum, and pimenta), paprika, and others.
- (e) Cottonseed; and seeds and fruits for planting, except graminaceous seeds and, in particular, ryegrass seed.
- (f) Unprocessed or split osiers.
- (g) Cocoa in beans or broken beans (not roasted); shells, rinds, shoots, and pellicles of cocoa.
- (h) Soil from garden, fields, or swamp, intended for use in cultivation.
- (i) Manure or compost of animal or plant origin.
- (j) Containers used for or having been used for transporting the abovenamed products.
- (k) Any product other than those named in this list.

Treatment or Other Disposition of Products Infested  
With Pests Dangerous to Agriculture

3. When inspection of the abovenamed products reveals the presence of pests considered dangerous to agriculture, the official of the Plant Protection Service shall take all measures he considers necessary to prevent their spread; namely, he may order the return, sorting, treatment, placing under observation or in quarantine, or destruction of infested or infected products or of products which are in a doubtful status, imported for any purpose.

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Authorized Ports of Entry  
(Ministerial Order of October 2, 1952)

4. (a) Ports designated for plant importations requiring disinsectization (See Art. 1B, p. 6): Bordeaux, Le Havre, and Nantes.
- (b) Seaports: Ajaccio, Bastia, Bayonne, Bordeaux, Boulogne, Brest, Caen, Cherbourg, Dieppe, Dunkirk, La Nouvelle, La Rochelle, La Rochelle-Pallice, Le Havre, Marseille, Monaco, Nantes, Nice, Port Vendres, Rouen, Saint Malo, Saint Nazaire, Sete, Toulon, Toulouse.
- (c) Airports: Ajaccio-Campo-di-Loro, Blotzheim, Bordeaux-Merignac, Caen-Carpiquet, Entzheim, Le Bourget, Lyon-Bron, Marseille-Marignane, Nice-Le Var, Orly, Perpignan-Llabanere, Toulouse-Blagnac.
- (d) Other ports: 47 inland ports, stations, and highway and canal points.

CHESTNUT PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION  
(Ministerial Order of December 11, 1950)

5. (a) The importation of chestnut trees and wood from all countries is prohibited, including nursery-grown and other living plants of chestnut, chestnut wood for tanning, fuel, etc., logs, squared timber, saw-wood, and chestnut cask staves.
- (b) The importation of chestnuts, whether or not in shells, from all countries is authorized, on condition that each shipment be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate. In case of infection by Endothia parasitica in the exporting country, the certificate shall specify that the chestnuts have been disinfected under a process acceptable to the French Plant Protection Service.

(Note: The following treatment, according to information furnished by the Ministry of Agriculture on October 19, 1951, is acceptable: Immersion for at least 1 hour in a 1-percent formalin solution, or for at least 30 minutes in a 2-percent formalin solution.

CONIFERS RESTRICTED  
(Ministerial Order of October 7, 1950)

6. Imports into France of plants and plant parts (except seeds) of the Conifers group, either greenhouse- or field-grown, are authorized, on condition that each shipment be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate issued by the official authorities of the country of origin, who will attest specifically that both the products in the shipment and those grown in the locality of origin were inspected and found free from needlecast disease (Rhabdocline pseudotsugae).

(Note: The "Conifers group" apparently includes Araucaria, Plum-yew, Cypress, Juniper, Arborvitae, Chamaecyparis, Pine, Larch, True Cedar, Hemlock, Fir, Spruce, Douglas-fir, Podocarpus, Yew, Taxodium, and Sequoia.)

DAHLIA TUBERS

(Ministerial Order of December 29, 1949)

Special Certification Required

7. The importation into France of dahlia tubers and cuttings from all countries is subject to presentation of a certificate of control as to selection and phytopathological inspection, issued by an authorized official of the country of origin, stating specifically that the products originated exclusively from selected stock and that they are free from virus diseases.

IMPORTATION OF GRAPEVINES PROHIBITED

(Law of July 15, 1921)

8. The importation of grapevines (stocks and cuttings) into France and Algeria is prohibited as a precaution against the introduction of phylloxera... (Extr. No. 170 from Customs tariff - grapevines of foreign origin.)

IMPORTATION OF POPLARS PROHIBITED,

EXCEPT FOR RESEARCH PURPOSES

(Ministerial Order of May 12, 1952)

9. (a) The importation of unrooted cuttings and plants of poplars is prohibited.

(b) By derogation of the aforesaid provisions, the Minister of Agriculture may authorize importations of cuttings or of plants of poplars destined to scientific institutions for research and experimental purposes.

POTATO WART

(Decree of December 19, 1910, and Order of June 10, 1924)

10. The importation of potatoes infected with wart disease (Synchytrium endobioticum (Schilb.) Perc.) is prohibited.

RESINOUS TIMBER PROHIBITED

(Ministerial Order of March 18, 1948)

11. The importation into France from all countries of resinous timbers, as logs or as lumber, when they are covered in whole or in part with bark, and also of debris of the bark of such timber, is prohibited.



SAN JOSE SCALE REGULATIONS  
(Ministerial Order of October 2, 1952)

Certification Required

12. Article 1.—The importation into any French territory subject to Customs, with the exception of Algeria, of living plants, parts of living plants, and fresh fruits coming from countries infested by the San Jose scale is subject to the following conditions:

A - Fresh Fruits.—Flowers, buds, foliage, and fresh branches for bouquets and decorative purposes, coming from woody plants.

These products must be imported through one of the Customs offices designated for such entry (See Order of October 2, 1952, par. 4, p. 4) and be accompanied by a phytopathological certificate in accordance with the model certificate attached to this Order.

(Note: Presentation of the model certificate is omitted since it is similar to Form EQ-926, which is acceptable to the French Plant Protection Service.)

If the official responsible for phytosanitary inspection, at the time of passage through the Customs office, establishes the presence of San Jose scale on any such products he is authorized to prescribe, for the entire shipment covered by the same phytopathological certificate, treatment for disinsectization, return of such shipment, destruction, or even diversion, in the case of fruits, to a processing plant.

B - Living plants and parts of living woody plants (trees, shrubs, nursery stock, grafts, unrooted cuttings, with the exception of those of conifers and aurantiaceous plants.)

Fumigation Required at Designated Ports of Entry

These products, accompanied by a phytopathological certificate in accordance with the model attached to this Order (see Note above) shall be imported only through such Customs offices as are equipped for giving disinsectization treatments (Bordeaux, Nantes, and Le Havre). The list of such offices is determined by the order of the Secretary of State for the Budget on the basis of recommendations of the Minister of Agriculture, in application of the Customs Code.

If the official responsible for phytosanitary inspection, at the time of passage through the Customs office, establishes the presence of San Jose scale, he is authorized to prescribe, for the entire shipment covered by the same phytopathological certificate, treatment for disinsectization, or return of the shipment. All lots admitted for importation are required to undergo disinsectization.



Article 2.—Any disinsectization prescribed with regard to any product shall also be applied to its container.

Article 3.—The Minister of Agriculture shall not be held responsible for any deterioration of any product caused by disinsectization.

#### Exceptions for Scientific Purposes

Article 4.—By derogation of the preceding provisions, the Minister of Agriculture may authorize certain importations, without their being subject to the provisions of Article 1 of this Order, when they are destined to scientific institutions for scientific and experimental purposes.

#### Transit Regulations

Article 5.—The transit through Continental France of living plants, parts of living plants, and fresh fruits, as designated in Article 1 of this Order, is authorized only when they are released by an office designated in the Order of October 2, 1952. Such products should be packed in containers that offer every guaranty of solidity and that permit no leakage. Transportation in bulk is prohibited except upon a special derogation granted by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Article 6.—All previous regulations relative to the importation and transit through Continental France of plants, parts of plants, and fresh fruits that conflict with the provisions of this Order are revoked, in particular the Order of November 19, 1948.

#### SEED RESTRICTIONS 1/

##### Dodder Prohibited

(Decree of February 21, 1908, and Order of March 10, 1908)

13. The importation into France of seeds of the plant parasite dodder (Cuscuta spp.) is prohibited. The prohibition applies also to forage-crop seeds that, upon inspection, are found to contain dodder seeds, in particular, alfalfa (Medicago sativa L.), red clover (Trifolium pratense L.), white clover (T. repens L.), alsike clover (T. hybridum L.), kidney vetch (Anthyllis vulneraria L.), birdsfoot trefoil (Lotus corniculatus L.), and timothy (Phleum pratense L.).

The Order of March 10, 1908, prescribes the method of sampling of alfalfa and clover seed.

##### Forage-Grass Seed Restrictions

14. According to the Law of January 11, 1932, as it appeared in Supplement No. 51 to the Bulletin of the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union, May 23, 1947, the importation into France is prohibited of:

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1/ Administration of regulations governing importations of seeds is effected by the Seed Control Laboratory, Service des Fraudes.



- (a) Mixed grass seeds for forage purposes;
- (b) Grass seeds intended for forage, but which are unfit for sowing.

The following are deemed unfit for sowing:

- (a) Grass seeds containing more than 5 percent of soft chess (Bromus mollis L.) or annual fescue grasses (Festuca Section Vulpia).
- (b) Grass seeds that do not attain the following minimal percentages of purity and germination:

	% purity	% germination
Agrostis spp. - bent grass	50	50
Alopecurus pratensis L. - meadow foxtail	50	45
Anthoxanthum odoratum L. - sweet vernal grass	70	50
Avena elatior - Arrhenatherum elatius (L.)		
Mert. & Kock - tall oat grass	70	50
Avena flavescens - Trisetum flavescens (L.)		
Beauv. - golden oat grass	50	45
Bromus pratensis - B. commutatus Schrad. - meadow brome grass	70	50
Cynosurus cristatus L. - crested dogtail grass	80	60
Dactylis glomerata L. - orchard grass	70	50
Festuca ovina L. - sheeps fescue	70	50
Festuca pratensis - F. elatior L. - meadow fescue	80	60
Festuca rubra var. heterophylla Mutel. - various-leaved fescue	65	50
Holcus lanatus L. - velvet grass	40	60
Lolium italicum - L. multiflorum Lam. - Italian ryegrass	80	60
Lolium perenne L. - English ryegrass	80	60
Lolium perenne var. pacyi Sturtev. - Pacey ryegrass	80	60
Phleum pratense L. - timothy	80	70
Poa nemoralis L. - wood meadow grass	70	50
Poa pratensis L. - Kentucky bluegrass	70	50

#### Hybrid Seedcorn

15. Seed strains will not be admitted in quantity if they have not been tested in advance in France. (From Despatch 1146, dated May 2, 1950, from the Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Paris.)